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PATENT APPLICATION

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER ART UNIT 1745

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hisao YASUHARA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1745

Application No.: 09/865,468

Examiner: G. Cantelmo

Filed: May 29, 2001

Docket No.: 109375

For: METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR PRETREATMENT OF METAL SAMPLES

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

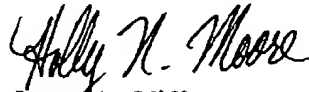
In reply to the May 24, 2004 Office Action, the following is submitted:

**Amendments to the Claims** as reflected in the listing of claims; and

**Remarks.**

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Holly N. Moore  
Registration No. 50,212

JAO:HNM/kzb

Date: July 30, 2004

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